

DEATH LAUNCH. Nearly One Hundred Persons Drowned. LONDON, June 20, 1883. Numerous as are the attractions now being offered to the sight-seeing public at South Kensington, there is, perhaps, no department of the Fisheries Exhibition more full of interest than that which exhibits the Celestial Empire. The astonishment and delight of captivation is at this time, as a matter of course, at the "slipper boats." These craft are generally 25 feet long and 18 inches wide, and they fish in couples moored side by side on bright moonlight nights, their only implement of capturing being a white board fastened along the outer side of each. This board catches the bright rays of the moon and the fish, who would seem to be of a confiding disposition in that portion of the Empire, are said to mistake it for water, and leap from their native element into the slipper boats in large numbers. Innumerable to the country are here on show in the Chinese annex. This would seem to be a branch of the industry naturally commencing itself to the minds of a people who are universally credited with a more than ordinary amount of cunning. Their fish traps are, moreover, manifold and varied, and of the highest workmanship and utility. In the British Isles this is a means of taking fish practically unknown and unpracticed, with the exception of the stereotyped eel and lobster pots. But the Chinese devote to their fish, largely to their strategic methods of fishing, and with an unvarying success that nothing but the boundless fertility of their rivers and seas could explain or withstand. The day will perhaps come when western ideas will penetrate sufficiently there to insure the suppression of whole-sale fish poisoning and such like fatal poisoning arrangements for the capture of small fry as are rather too candidly exhibited here; but at present we can only admire, perhaps with a tinge of dejection, the hundred and one devices employed in a country where, though every form of sport is available, and where, for the most part, the fish supply seems to remain as abundant and accessible as ever.

LONDON, July 3.—Intelligence has reached here of a terrible calamity during the launch of the steamer Daphne at Glasgow to-day. While being launched she fell over on her side, precipitating a number of persons into the water. Further particulars of the calamity state that the Daphne, which was constructed for the coasting trade, is a vessel of 500 tons burden; two hundred workmen were on board when it capsized. The accident occurred in the middle of the river Clyde, after the launching. It is not exactly known how many persons were drowned, but it is feared the number will reach over one hundred. A later dispatch from Glasgow says the Daphne capsized near Dryden, five miles from Glasgow. Traffic on the Clyde is suspended, owing to the interruption to navigation caused by the capsized steamer.

LATER PARTICULARS. The Daphne left the ways at a very fast rate and when she gained the water she rolled from side to side. Persons on board, fearing she would capsize, ran to and fro. The vessel finally rolled over, and nearly disappeared beneath the water. Those who had maintained their positions on a portion of the steamer not submerged did their utmost to save themselves who were cast overboard. At the same time boats hastily pulled to assist in the work of rescuing the unfortunate people, and succeeded in saving quite a number. It is known, however, there were fifty persons below in the Daphne when the vessel went over, and they must all have been drowned. A crowd of grief-stricken relatives of the victims flocked to the scene of the calamity. Another dispatch from Glasgow says the cause of her capsizing was she had too much top weight. The steamer was dragging the water for the bodies of the victims. Several of the people who were taken from the water alive were so exhausted that it was necessary to remove them to an infirmary. The steamer is now under water, with fifty bodies before mentioned on her.

The Daphne turned upside down before she sank. An eye-witness said a great number of men were struggling in the water and shrieking for help. Many were brought covered with blood, having been under water, with fifty bodies before mentioned on her. The Daphne turned upside down before she sank. An eye-witness said a great number of men were struggling in the water and shrieking for help. Many were brought covered with blood, having been under water, with fifty bodies before mentioned on her.

Corporators are another means employed by the Chinese on lakes and the shallow sheets of water, for taking fish. This aquatic species of having is of very old date, and was known and practiced in England under various names imported from the East, two centuries ago. But it is followed with success only by the Chinese. The birds, which have to undergo a regular training, are taken out in a boat, and before the work commences a strap or ring is placed around each coramant's throat, sufficiently tight to prevent its swallowing its fish. It is caught in its strongly hooked beak, but not so tight as to prevent respiration. The dark winged fishermen then go off and cater for their master with success and regularity, being rewarded with an occasional fish, which they are permitted to eat when the strap has been removed. Above all things the Chinese are a frugal nation, making use of substances which would meet with culinary contempt in any other country. The discarded shark represents to them a valuable form of food. The fins go to form the well-known soup, and are used in the preparation of gelatine, while the skin, after being prepared and cleaned, serves for covering sword handles and for various other ornamental purposes. Even the cuttle fish, a creature repulsive to fishermen of most other nations, is the object of careful pursuit with them. Some of the shells containing artificially constructed pearls are shown here in one of the cases, and though they are no novelty to the divers alike of China, Ceylon and Panama, they will doubtless be new to many. It will be observed that some of them are in the shape of quaint little animals clinging to the shell. These metallic images have been inserted while the mussel lived, and finding itself ill at ease with this encumbrance, which it has been unable to eject, the bivalve has adopted the process which is the cause of all pearls, and has silently covered the irritating foreign substance with layer after layer of the white material known in the perfect form of pearl.

A Little Mistake. A piano tuner called at a house on Euclid avenue and quietly placed his hat on the hall stand before proceeding to his work. The housemaid being busy with her weekly sweeper had removed all the small articles from the hall, and her mistress passing through observed the solitary article of property so dear to every masculine heart. Thinking it the garden hat of her husband, she placed it in an adjoining closet. Presently the man, having finished tuning the piano, started to leave, but being unable to find his hat, meekly asked the maid to assist him in looking for it. They searched both the hall and parlor, but in vain, until the lady, whose attention had been drawn by the comment, also joined in the search. At last she noticed the hat on the hall stand, and proceeding to the closet produced the one she had placed there a short time before, apologizing for its unsightly appearance by saying it was a very old one, used by her husband when working mornings in the garden. The tuner took the hat and after carefully examining it said it looked very much like his hat, and that he was quite sure it was the one he had placed in the hall upon his arrival. It suddenly dawned on the lady's mind how the mistake was made, but she still wonders how two hats could so exactly resemble each other.—Cleveland Herald.

Bad Medicine. A young physician who had long worshipped a young lady was one day suddenly called to attend her. He found her suffering from no particularly dangerous malady, but she wanted him to prescribe nevertheless; so he took her hand and said impressively: "Well, I should—prescribe—I should prescribe that—you—get married." "Oh, goodness!" said the interesting invalid. "who would marry me, I wonder?" "I would," snapped the doctor, with all the voracity of a six-footed pickered. "You," exclaimed the maiden. "Yes."

A French investigator, who has a taste for the curious in science, has recently made a series of experiments to test the strength of insects as compared with the strength of other creatures. He finds that in proportion to its size, a bee can pull 30 times as much weight as a horse. Poetry needs as much protection during the summer from the fierce rays of the sun as they do in winter from the severe cold. For some reason the year ending May 1 was a thirty one, for the first of this country drew 733,062 more barrels of beer during the year than ever before in the same length of time.

Printers are liable to err. So, at least, thought the young man who blushed to the tips of his ears as he stepped up to the society editor's table: "Good morning. What is it, sir?" "You made a little mistake in your announcement yesterday, sir?" "Very likely. It is almost impossible not to make a mistake sometimes. What was it?" "You said me and Lizzy Piggins were betrothed when we were not betrothed at all. We are betrothed, sir. Quite a difference."

"A! I presume you see the difference now more than you will in the future. However, I will smooth the matter out. Good morning, sir."—Baltimorean.

Congressman Proctor Knott, of Kentucky, is an amateur artist.

### GET THE BEST!

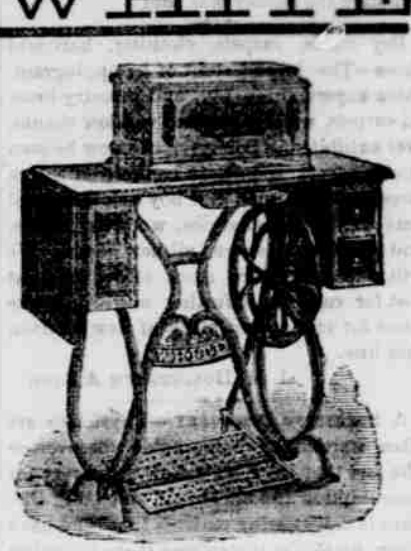
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